

A Newspaper Devoted to the Welfare of All Workers by Hand or Brain

The Canadian Railroader Weekly

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THE GOLDEN RULE

AT this moment it is very difficult for the human animal to live. The beasts of the field are provided for. There is milk for cats, meat for dogs, hay for horses, grain for cattle, carrots for the elephant and bananas for the monkey in the circus, but there is neither food, clothing nor shelter for the human animal. The human hand and the human brain, for some reason, has provided the necessities of life for the denizens of the managerie. By sheer perversity, dangerously tinged with lunacy, all of which spells inefficiency, the human animal is the cheapest and the most scientifically neglected creature on earth. We oil our machines, we grease our locomotives, we paint our houses, we shelter our cattle and with rare discernment we then proceed to starve ourselves to death, all of which indicates our superb intelligence. There is not the slightest doubt that if some glib individual mounted on a soap box would minutely explain to the thoughtful populace that both feet might be cut off at the ankles, as an aid to locomotion, on the theory that there would be less weight to carry about, there isn't a shadow of doubt, based upon previous performances, but that the theory would be well tried out.

Everyone knows that it is right and just to perpetuate life. We are all conscious that in order to live we must have food, clothing and shelter. It is apparent to the child that runs that a country over 3,000 miles in length and hundreds of miles so rich in soil and

kissed so feverishly by the sun that when you drop the seed, the plant springs up and pops you in the nose, should be able to provide these things. When we wander out among the isles, among the trees, in the

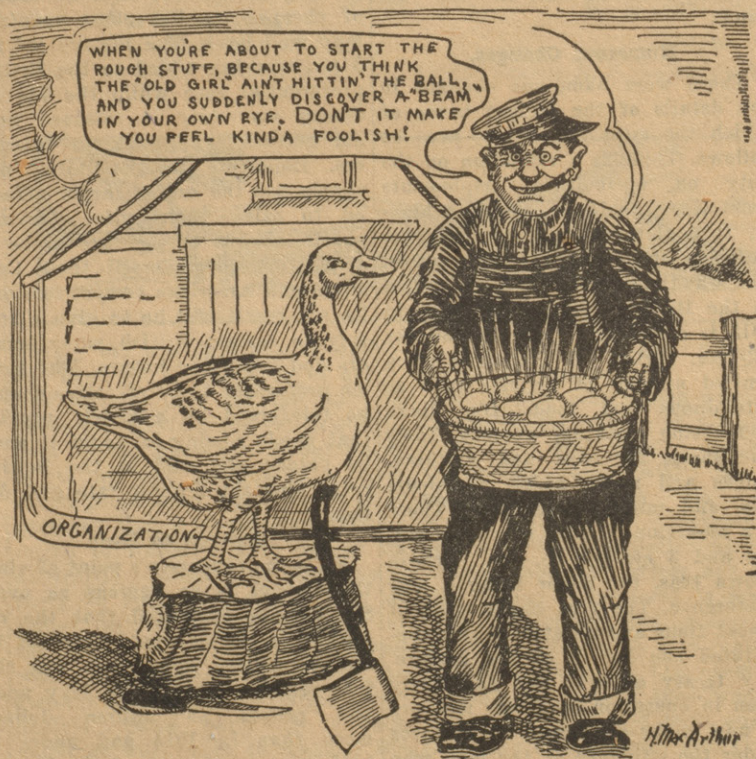
mills, down into your cities, I will keep out the cold, the snow, I will protect you from the rain, from the heat; I will assist you to live"; when we pass on and look out upon the ranges, studded with cattle; when we glide on down innumerable and endless streams where the fish leap into the air as if to say "here we are"; when we pass on until we come to the cities where the machineries hum and the

rattle, the crash, when we experience the mighty throb and the tremendous vibration of our mechanical industry,—what else can we do but bare our heads and look straight into the sun, where we expect to find the light and cry out in the hope that an answer may come back: "With this, with all this that I may have food, clothing and shelter, why is it that I am hungry, that I am naked and that I am homeless?"

For many people of our land are starving. Out on the western horizon, the dark clouds of hate and anger and bitterness are colliding and we see the livid flash and you and I that bear the moans of the storm, you and I quiver with the menace of the tumult which is approaching. Have we done and are we doing all that we should be done in this terrible emergency? Are we doing what we humanly can do to bring food, clothing and shelter to our fellow men? You that have brains, by good fortune, by environment, you that are in control of the great machineries of production, you who are the navigators in the streams of distribution and you organized workers who have had the benefit of organization and who understand ordered procedure, through parliamentary rules and regulations, and you who have made a business of public life, you politicians, are you all honestly sure that you have been doing your absolute level best to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to shelter the homeless?

If you have been careless, selfish, if you have failed to realize your responsibility, then you will understand the reasons for the storm. It is the first law of nature to thrive. By one means or another the people will acquire food, clothing and shelter. It is by far the best
(Continued on page 9.)

The Goose That Lays The Golden Eggs



A warning against the "One Big Union" idea, and other radical departures from the organized labor movement, is contained in this cartoon from the Locomotive Engineers' Journal.

forests that are interminable, and the great limbs stretch out and welcome you as with open arms and you hear the spirit of the woods say to you, "I have been waiting for you for the centuries. I am shelter. Send me through your

great furnaces of industry belch out the breath of heat and energy; when we think of the uncountable machines, when we ponder about the miles and miles of belting, whirling on, when we see the needles flying and hear the loom, when we hear the

Our OTTAWA LETTER

Our long delayed Budget was at last introduced on June 5th, six weeks later than the normal date. It has long been known that there were serious possibilities of a split in the Unionist ranks over its terms, now that the war had ended, and more than ordinary interest was evinced concerning the event. Sir Thomas delivered his speech with the crisp business-like clarity which distinguishes all his utterances, in an hour and a half, and the debate, as is customary, was adjourned for the week-end. The following was his financial statement of the fiscal year, 1918-19, given roughly, as in his speech, in millions:

Revenue.

Customs.	\$ 147,000,000
Excise.	30,000,000
Business Profits Tax..	33,000,000
Income Tax.	10,000,000
Other War Taxation..	14,000,000
Miscellaneous.	65,000,000
	\$ 310,000,000

Expenditure.

Ordinary Services. . .	\$ 240,000,000
Capital Account. . . .	22,000,000
War Expenditure. . . .	450,000,000
	\$ 712,000,000

Sir Thomas claimed credit for a surplus of \$48,000,000 apart from the war expenditure, but on the other hand he has only been able to meet 10.66 per cent of the capital expenditure of the war out of surplus revenue, which is a slight reduction on the previous low ratio of 13 per cent in 1916-17 and 11 per cent in 1917-18. But up to this year the average proportion of the direct cost of the war met out of surplus was only 6.1 p.c., so perhaps it may be taken that our financial methods are slowly improving.

In Special Account.

For the year 1919-20 Sir Thomas had decided that ordinary revenue and expenditure on the national railway system should be kept in a special account and by this arrangement \$38,000,000 on last year's basis was withdrawn from his revenue forecasts. He estimated a slight increase of \$8,000,000 from the balance, made up as follows:

Customs.	\$ 145,000,000
Excise.	30,000,000
Post Office.	18,000,000
Business Profits War Tax.	35,000,000

The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the people who make its laws.

Read the platform of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association, sent on request.

Income Tax.	20,000,000
Other War Taxation . .	14,000,000
Miscellaneous.	18,000,000
	\$ 280,000,000

Against this there had to be set an estimated expenditure of \$620,000,000 of which roughly \$300,000,000 will be consumed in expenditure connected with the war. Gratuities take up \$92,000,000 and there are \$30,000,000 in pensions and \$25,000,000 in soldier settlement schemes. There are considerable allocations for an extensive housing scheme and various public works designed to avert unemployment during the period of adjustment. Sir Thomas White exhorted the country to realize that there was a definite limit to the policy of providing employment by expenditure of public money. Unfortunately he has already allowed too large a share of the funds earmarked for this purpose to be allocated to wasteful enterprises for which political exigencies or the greed of influential profiteers has demanded support. But as things stand, leaving out of account war and demobilisation expenditure, the Finance Minister anticipates a deficit of \$40,000,000 in the present financial year and proposes to float another domestic loan in the autumn.

Numerous Changes.

There were numerous changes in the details of the budget taxes of which the most important are as follows. There is a reduction on the duty on agricultural implements from 27 p.c. to 15 p.c., partly achieved through arrangements with the railways for reduced freight rates. The war-time surtax of 5 p.c. added to the British preferential rates in 1915 is completely repealed and the 7½ p.c. surtax is removed on a limited number of articles such as bituminous coal, foodstuffs, linen and cotton clothing, woollens, boots and shoes, fur caps and clothing, gloves and mitts, hides, petroleum oils, and mining machinery. There is a reduction of 5 cts per lb. on coffee and 3 cts per lb. on British grown teas, the latter being a new preference. The free importation of wheat flour and potatoes which constituted the kernel of the reciprocity treaty of 1911 and has lately been in operation as a war measure is now to be confirmed by statutes under the guidance of the man who made his political reputation in resisting it at that date. Part of the reduction in the duty on agricultural implements is secured by the railways having agreed, in return for the removal of the surtax on bituminous coal, to equalise their rates for such from Eastern Canada to the lower level of the American rates from Chicago to the Canadian Northwest. Confronted with the necessity of raising additional revenue,

Sir Thomas has practically doubled the income tax rates, bringing them up to the American level. The exemptions accorded to M.P.'s, judges and certain special classes have been cancelled. The business profits tax which expired at the end of 1918, has not been renewed and there is in addition a corporation tax of 10 p.c. on the net income of companies in excess of \$2,000.

Clever in Some Ways.

The more elaborate details of the changes can be obtained in the daily press but the above are its salient features and it now remains to offer some observations upon it. In some respects it is a clever budget. It makes a great show of tariff concessions and makes a great pretence of taxing the rich. But the tariff concessions on examination will prove to be infinitesimal in their scope and are not likely to have the slightest effect in reducing the cost of living. Take the preference given on tea grown within the British Empire, to which the British Budget also gave a preference. The British Empire already produces in India and Ceylon more tea than is consumed within its bounds. China, Java and Sumatra tea will now go to foreign countries and its price will have to be fixed at a rate to compete with the surplus tea of the British Empire. But the Ceylon and Indian producers of tea will have a specially preserved market, which they will strain to the limit of its protection. We will have no chance of cheaper tea but other countries may well have. The removal of the 5 p.c. war tax added to the British preferential rate while the 7½ ordinary war duty is retained need not necessarily benefit our consumers. Importers from Britain will simply use the extra margin afforded to raise their prices several points, always taking care to be in a position to undersell their Canadian and American competitors and its net result will be to give a subsidy to certain British manufacturers and importing houses. The British preference to be effective should be reinforced by a strict proviso that goods coming in under it must be valued and sold at the British price plus the freight rate and duties.

Onerous as Ever.

From the consumer's point of view the Budget is as onerous as ever. Sir Thomas estimated that the reduction in duties would take off 17 million dollars next year. But the fact remains that it will levy upon our people 28 million dollars more than in 1914 and under it half our revenues are derived from taxes on consumption. The defenders of the Budget will make great play of the fact that the income tax rate has now been raised to practically the American level. But they will conveniently omit to mention the fact that a great number of our plutocrats who would be liable for the higher rates have their hoards safely stowed away in the tax-free bonds which Sir Thomas White so kindly provided. Last year we only

assessed 10 millions on the income tax and this year it is anticipated we will secure double that amount. But New Zealand with one eighth of our population raised 2½ times as much last year by income tax; they had no tax free bonds and the administration was handled by officials who did not desire it to be a failure. Great Britain has roughly about six times our wealth, yet last year she raised by direct taxation through the income and excess profits tax over \$3,000,000,000 while we raise from these sources only \$43,000,000 or one seventieth of her total. Taxes on consumption are bound to hit the poor man harder than taxes on income and property, but Sir Thomas raises over 60 per cent of his taxes by the former method; in Britain, less than 20 per cent is raised from taxes on consumption, and over 80 per cent from taxes on property and income. The U. S. A. figures are practically the reverse of ours, over sixty per cent coming from income and property and the balance from consumption. The Budget is obviously designed to meet the desires of the propertied and financial classes and bears all the earmarks of the class bias which has distinguished all Sir Thomas' previous financial performances.

Dwelt Upon Big Debt.

In the course of his speech he dwelt upon our debt which he expected after the next loan would amount to almost \$2,000,000,000. Once again with sublime effrontery or ignorance he laid stress on the fact that it was a great advantage to have the larger portion of the debt held within the country. But once again it might be asked if local individuals or corporations will be any more likely to forego their vested claims than, say, a resident of Switzerland or a Spanish corporation. If our debts were held by the latter two types we could pick a quarrel perhaps and get a chance of repudiation, but here, if ever a levy on capital or partial cancellation of the war debt was proposed, we would see deploying at once for the defence of the big interests, the small investor, the honest workman, the stenographers who have bought war bonds with their hard won savings, and of course the inevitable widows and orphans whose "all" is locked up in the debt.

It is obvious that there is no pretence of being able to make ends meet this year and there will be less chance next year when the total debt charges have been increased by a new loan. Sir Thomas carefully concealed from the House and the nation the real plight in which they are situated; his financial masters would have resented such frankness. We are mortgaged far beyond our means of being able to repay by any means short of general impoverishment or skilful exploitation of weaker communities but the secret decrees of our dominant plutocracy forbid the mention of any project which might alleviate our burdens. We have just concluded the greatest

war in history and contributed to the victory at the cost of many precious lives and much treasure. Yet at the end of it all we find ourselves not only impoverished by the expenditure of all this blood and treasure but told that we are in debt to the calculated money value of it all and may pay the interest on that debt chiefly by onerous tariff taxes which enhance the cost of living and lower the standard of life for thousands as a result. To whom are we in debt and for what? Has not all our expenditure been national, has it not fallen upon all classes, has not everybody more or less borne his share of the travail and suffering? And in the ultimate was not all the life, labor and material contributed a common possession of the nation to spend in its defence? Why should we "owe" for it still? Who had the right to "lend" to the community what was already the property of the community? And to whom does the community "owe" what is now estimated as the money value of its sacrifices and exertions in the common cause? All these questions should be asked and answered but needless to say they will not be.

A Money Miracle.

The amount of currency available in this country is more than three times what it was before the war. Yet this increase in the value of "money" has taken place at the same time and as a consequence of great destruction of real wealth. It is not strange that money should be able to perform this miracle—what exactly is money? To-day it is nothing more than "a draft on future labor and the future creation of wealth". Our legal tender money is not wealth, in any shape or form, it represents only the obligation to pay its holders in goods or services that are still to be performed; in short it is a debt. Yet the terms of this Budget contemplate the addition of several hundred millions to the existing debt and we are at the present moment paying the interest on the already existing debt by getting further into debt. Of course to talk economy in Canada to-day is wasting words. Why should our captains of industry and finance encourage economy in public expenditure when all public expenditure is more than returned to them in the form of a draft on future production and results in the issuance of more tax free bonds in which to conceal their plunder from the taxpayer. Why should any body decline cake when he can both have and eat it?

There is no eventual escape from a wholesale revolution in our whole financial and economic situation. A mere levy on capital might well fail to meet the difficulties. The real problem is not so much that of capital as of inflated credit, which has hopelessly lowered the purchasing power of money by its inflation. What is needed is some scheme for a levy on credit even if it does annoy our Mandarins of finance,



SAFETY FIRST

The days of "Wabash Billy"
And "Hot-foot Kid" are past—
It's time we all should see it
And better first than last;
And of all our mortal enemies
The one we should fear worst,
Is the one who always ridicules
The motto, "Safety First".

There was a time in days gone by
When each boss was a king.
If he said go, you had to go,
And run like everything;
And if you said it wasn't safe
You surely would get cursed,
But things have changed since by-
gone days,
And we have "Safety First".

From East to West along the line
In days that used to be,
It didn't cut a bit of ice
If you got killed, or me;
Men seemed to think the only way
To work and hit the ball,
Was to do a thing haphazard
Though it wasn't safe at all;
And though you lost an arm or leg
You did it if you durst;
But we don't do it that way now,
Since we have "Safety First".

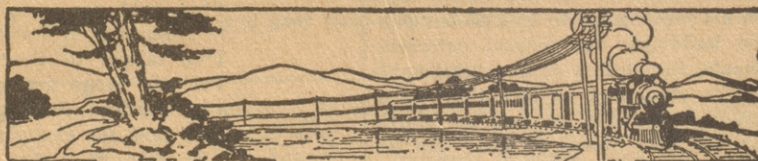
When safety rules made their debut
Some men said it was bunk;
Thought that they couldn't railroad
Where equipment wasn't junk.
And if you spoke of safety
Their lips in scorn were pursued,
They said you were a "scissor-bill"
And to hell with "Safety First".

But that old gang is getting scarce,
They are growing mighty few,
And safety boys are in their place
Protecting me and you;
And unsafe work will be cut out
While safe ways are rehearsed,
And "pencil peddlers" will be less,
With thanks to "Safety First".

So let's all get together,
You, I and all the rest.
And even though it isn't much
Each one can do his best;
And if we save one life or limb
We'll feel well reimbursed
For the little effort we put out
Promoting "Safety First".

W. H. STOBER,
Yardmaster.

Camas Prairie R. R., Lewiston, Idaho



whereby our war debt may be deflated. That we should have in actual fact already paid for the war in goods and services and yet be still in debt for the whole sum as calculated in an inflated medium is a monstrous proposition, but it is not to be expected that a single voice will be raised in Parliament to expose its absurdity. Sooner or later some party in Britain, probably that of Labor, will make the deflation of the war debt a political issue and will win to power on it despite the fierce resistance of the larger bondholders. Some party in Canada might as well begin to consider the proposition at this date.

Master or Servant?

In the course of controversy which will arise we may be able to bring to the front the question whether finance is to be the master or servant of society. Sir Thomas White obviously has no idea of a world in which finance is not the supreme master and therefore his Budget has not the slightest claim for approbation from progressive minds who

do not believe in the materialist regime of the dollar.

Mr. Crerar took a step which was inevitable for a man of his sincere convictions and sound democratic sympathies and with his departure the last tie which could bind the allegiance of men who desire a better world in Canada, from this effete and incapable Union government is severed. Certain hirelings and understrappers of the plutocracy who remain in it may continue to call themselves Liberals but none of them who have accepted this Budget have any further title to the name, dire even as the discredit is into which it has fallen under Mr. D. D. Mackenzie's tutelage. The political effects of Mr. C. Crerar's resignation will be discussed in a subsequent letter.

The Budget has overshadowed everything else during the week. There was, however, an interesting debate on an industrial situation on Monday, which included some excellent special pleading by Mr. Meighen and an illuminating speech

by Mr. Ernest Lapointe. Tuesday was a holiday and on Wednesday the Cabinet were beaten in an attempt to confirm the privileges of the Mackenzie and Mann power interests against the municipalities.

J. A. S.

LONDON PAPER REFERS TO FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING ASSOCIATION

In an article on Canadian labor conditions, appearing in The New Statesman, London, England, the following reference is made to the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association:—

"But the most interesting departure in the Canadian Labor world is found among the railwaymen of Canada, who number over 70,000, and stand rigorously apart from the Trades Union Congress. The name 'Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada' has been given to a new organization, whose objects are, according to its constitution, 'to bring about by direct political action the election to office of the greatest possible number of the country's workmen, those who toil by hand and brain, as will secure the fullest liberty and the most widely diffused equality of opportunity, in all that concerns the lives of our citizens, with the ultimate aim of the attainment of real democracy in government and industry.' Mass meetings are held when there is a fifth Sunday in the month, which occurs four times a year, hence the name of the Association.

"Then follows an extensive economic and political programme of a very advanced nature, which also takes a very strong line in favor of internationalism. It favors the taxation of land values, ownership of municipal utilities, proportional representation, and a general minimum wage, among other reforms. The originator of the Association and its first President is a British-born railway conductor of Montreal, J. A. Woodward, who is a man of real force of character and fine democratic ideals.

"The Association, which already after a short existence has over 10,000 members, is chiefly confined to the railway men in Montreal region at present, but it opens its arms to workers in any calling or profession on payment of a two-dollar fee. It plans to hold a mass-meeting on all "fifth-Sundays" and at the first gathering, held in September, Sir Wilfrid Laurier addressed a packed house, from which thousands were turned away, on the League of Nations. The Association now control the *Canadian Railroader*, a quarterly, which they hope soon to transform into a weekly, and they plan to organize branches in every part of the Dominion. Now, the railwaymen, who are the aristocracy of labor in North America, have hitherto sternly held aloof from politics, and this adventure into political organisation and education is a most welcome and significant step."

A Scathing Criticism of the Rich

(By A. Hulton Brock, in the Manchester Guardian).

I was present at a labor-meeting in a little south-country town the other day, when a discussion sprang up about the conscience and the intelligence of the rich. One speaker said they were clever, at least their leaders were, for they found a new red-herring at every election. This time it was "Make Germany pay, and hang the kaiser." Next time it would be something else. "Anyhow, we are had every time," he said. But another speaker said he knew something of the rich, and they were not clever, though they had some animal cunning. "If they were clever they would have given us enough to satisfy us years ago, but they were too stupid and ignorant to do that."

Neither of the speakers was a "Bolshevik," nor was it a meeting of Bolsheviks, but of ordinary working men of the Home Counties, and it was interesting to hear them say what they really thought or felt. But it was not pleasant to realize the gulf between them and the well-to-do, and I wished that some more of my own class were present to hear them. But of course none were. They don't turn out at night to go to labor meetings; if they go to meetings at all, it is to those of their own party, where they hear what they expect to hear and suppose there is no answer to it. Nor do they read labor papers; they get their version of what labor thinks and feels from their own papers, owned and written by their own class, and their political economy, if they have any, from books, written by their own class.

The two worlds have no dealings with each other except in the matter of business and charity, and they are divided from each other by both. The more a working man thinks, the more he lives in his own world, with his own prophets and heroes, his own aims and values; and every year this world is becoming more real to him and more distinct from that of the well-to-do, who are not even curious to know what he thinks and desires and loves and hates.

The English upper class, for the most part, believe that they know about politics and political economy by instinct. For them there is not

one case and another case, but a set of facts which they have grasped and of which the working classes are ignorant. How could it be otherwise, since the working class lack the leisure and education which they possess? If they are well disposed towards labor they think it ought to be instructed so that it may know what they know.

But meanwhile labor, at least the more intelligent part of it, has been instructing itself in another school altogether, and with the aim not of defending the status quo but of attacking it. Labor has no desire to be instructed by the educated classes, because it thinks that they are not educated. Where it can test their knowledge, in matters that most closely concern itself, it finds that they are ignorant both of fact, and of theories. They know nothing of the housing question; they do not even know what kind of house the working man wants; they know nothing of what he wants or why he wants it. And when it comes to theories they talk about the perpetual struggle between the haves and the have-nots, or say that capital and labor are both necessary to each other.

The working man is past that proposition; he is asking whether the capitalist is necessary to him; and he no longer believes that people of leisure, by reason of their superior culture and knowledge, perform a valuable function. He knows what artists think of the rich man's taste in art; he begins to look at our public buildings, our refined entertainments, the clothes of our fashionable ladies even, and he sees that plutocracy has failed in art, as Morris said it was bound to do. He believes that it has failed in everything. It has not even produced intelligent plutocrats; it cannot defend itself because it does not know the case against itself. In fact, from every source his rage is fed and becomes more and more a religious rage. Not only his interests but his deepest values feed it; besides injustice, plutocracy means to him ugliness, futility, faithlessness; and the more he thinks and feels, the more it means all these to him.

But of these facts the rich remain for the most part ignorant. They talk of unrest among the workers as if it were the unrest of a dog searching for fleas, and they are unaware that the working man is beginning to despise them more than he envies them. But since they have leisure and are supposed to have education, and since they justify their good fortune on the ground that their education and leisure make them valuable to society, it is their duty, at least, to master the case of labor, if only so that they may know how to answer it. At present most of them, if they try to answer it at all, answer a case which they imagine for themselves. If anyone who reads this

thinks it unjust, I would ask him how often he has been to a labor meeting, or read a labor paper, or talked freely to a Socialist workingman.

You cannot learn any case from the opponents of it, or even from vague, sentimental sympathizers with it. The working man will tell you that he knows where the shoe pinches, and you do not; he knows how the mass of people live in this country and you do not; he knows what they want and you do not. And if you tell him that no more can be done than has been done he will disagree with you. As for the political economy which you learned, or didn't learn, in your youth, it is nothing to him. He has a political economy of his own which he probably knows better than you know yours.

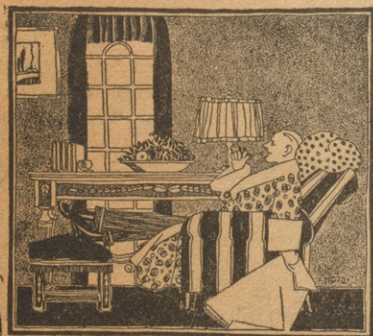
Tell him that the rights of capital are based on the abstinence of the capitalist, and he will tell you that it

is the workers who do the abstaining and the capitalists who profit by it. Talk to him about the rights of property, and he will refer you to two books by Hammond "The Town Laborer" and "The Village Laborer" and will ask you whether you think the facts related in those books prove that the rich have had any respect for the property of the poor. And you, if you are an ordinary member of the prosperous class, will have to answer that you have not read them. We know how the orthodox used to guard themselves against doubt by not reading anything the doubters said, and how they used to be satisfied with arguments which assumed their ignorance of the other side, but their will-to-believe in the account of creation given in the Book of Genesis was respectable compared with our will-to-believe in the righteousness of our own prosperity.

ST. PETER AND THE SCAB

St. Peter stood guard at the golden gate.
With solemn mien and air sedate,
When up at the top of the golden stair
A shrouded figure ascended there,
In hope the seeker of peace came and stood,
Before St. Peter, so great and good,
Applied for admission, he to win
"O thou who guardest the gate," said he,
"I have come hither, beseeching thee
To let me enter the heavenly land
And let me play a harp in the angel band.
Of me, St. Peter, there is no doubt,
There's nothing from heaven to keep me out,
I've been to meeting three times a week,
And almost always I'd rise and speak.
"I've told the sinners about the day
When they'd repent of their evil way,
I've told my neighbors—I've told them all—
Of Adam and Eve and the primal fall.
I've talked to them loud, I've talked to them long.
For my lungs are good and my voice is strong.
I've marked their path of duty clear,
And laid out the plan of their old career.
"So good St. Peter, you'll clearly see"
That the gate of heaven is open to me
Here's the company's letter of recommend
Which I hope you'll read before you send,
For the angel guide to the throne of grace—
It might gain me a higher place,
You'll find I was always content to live.
On what ever the company cared to give.
"And I ought to get a large reward
For never owning a union card.
I've never mixed with the union truck.
But I must be going my way to win,
So open, St. Peter, and let me in."
St. Peter sat and stroked his taff,
Despite his high office he had to laugh.
Said he, with a fiery gleam in his eye,
"Who is tending this gate, sir, you or I?
I've heard of you and your gift of gab,
You are what is known on earth as a scab."
Thereupon he rose in his stature tall,
And pressed a button upon the wall,
And said to the man who answered the bell,
That they don't even want a scab in hell."
Tell Satan to give him a seat alone
In a red-hot griddle up near the throne.
But stay, e'en the devil can't stand the smell
Of a cooking scab on a griddle in hell.
If would cause revolt, a strike, I know,
If I sent you down to the imps below
Go back to your masters on earth and tell
That they don't even want a scab in hell.

Geo. W. Page.



The contentment of the rich exasperates the workingman, who calls it ignorance.

The Way the Wind Blows

TO JOIN A. F. OF L.

The Order of Railroad Conductors, which has just completed its convention at St. Louis, voted to make application for admission into the American Federation of Labor. Such a step had been under advisement for some time past, but had been deferred until the present convention. A. B. Garretson, chief executive of the conductors since 1906, has retired from that position.

WOMEN DO 22 PER CENT

Eight million, or 22 per cent. of all persons engaged in gainful occupations in the United States are women, according to the women's division of the federal employment service.

Of this 8,000,000 more than 1,000,000 were women and girls employed for non-monetary returns on home farms. Roughly calculated, 19 per cent of all paid employees in 1918 were women and girls who need employment information at some period in their lives.

STUDY LABOR QUESTION

Creation of a joint economic mission to study industrial and labor problems is provided for in a joint resolution introduced at Washington by Senator Edge, New Jersey.

COAL HOGS EXAMINED

The remarkable spectacle of titled aristocracy being subjected to a rigid cross-examination on how they secured title to coal lands was witnessed at a hearing by the Sankey coal commission, when Robert Smilie, president of the British Miners' Federation, asked these lords, dukes and earls many embarrassing questions.

Vast acreages and princely incomes are involved and the trade unionist, with cold dignity, challenged the noblemen, again and again, to produce the authority on which they hold these lands.

Vague assertions that "the land had been in the family since before the Roman conquest", or "if the land were not mine it would have been claimed by some one else", did not satisfy the miners' official. He wanted every statement of the lords backed by documentary evidence and in many cases the witnesses were unable to do this, and indicated no desire to show their title deeds.

The Earl of Duiham was not clear as to why he claimed ownership of 12,411 acres of coal land, and which nets him a revenue of \$200,000 a year. He said he never read the title deeds to these lands, and he could see no reason for the present inquiry.

"You have caused my agent", he said, "a great deal of inconvenience by saying you wanted the title deeds here".

The attorney of one duke, whose income on coal lands is represented at over a million a year, could see nothing unfair in the fact that the duke was getting a shilling a ton royalty on the coal, while the coal digger who risked his life was paid less than that sum a ton for mining it.

"What has this commission got to do with me?" angrily asked the Earl of Northumberland, who owns mining rights that covers 250,000 acres of land and has an annual income of over \$300,000. The Earl opposes the nationalization of mines. He said the miners "were trying to monopolize the mines for themselves".

The Marquis of Londonderry in-

road one mile long which cost \$200,000 to construct. Other coal operators are forced to use this line, which is called the "Golden Mile" railroad.

GET 44-HOURS A WEEK

Workers employed on the Hydro and Welland ship canals have secured an eight-hour day, a 44-hour week, and double time on Sundays and holidays. The men arranged for a strike that would involve a large number of cities if their demand for shorter hours were not granted. Every attempt was made to deny these employees a shorter work day.

RECORD A. F. OF L. MEET.

There are approximately 550 delegates in attendance at the thirty-ninth annual convention of the A. F. of L. at Atlantic City, this week. This is a record number. For the first time the British Trades Union Congress is represented by a woman



Citizen: "Say, why don't you reform?"

Hold-up Man: "Why you poor fish, I am reformed. I used to be a land-lord!"

sisted that he had as much right to the 5,000 acres of coal land held by him, and the income of \$45,000 a year, as he had to the coat on his back.

The Marquis of Bute, who owns 126,582 acres of coal lands, and has an annual income of over \$550,000 admitted that King Edward VI was a boy between 10 and 14 years of age 360 years ago when he signed documents conveying the lands which now form the Bute estates.

The marquis said he should be paid for these lands if they were nationalized, even if it were shown that the signature of the boy king on these documents was forged.

Lord Tredegar was impatient with the commission. The nobleman's annual income is \$425,000. He said he was "somewhat rusty" about the titles to these lands; that they were in his family from time immemorial and that if he didn't hold them "some one else would". One of the commissioners presented proof that large tracts in Lord Tredegar's holdings were never purchased. It was shown that the witness had an income of \$95,000 a year from a

Miss M. Bonfield. Her colleague fraternal delegate is S. Finney. The fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is J. M. Walsh.

Added Years.

Wife: "To-morrow will be my twenty-sixth birthday."

Hubby: "Why, a year ago, just before our wedding, you told me you were twenty-two."

Wife: "Yes, but we women age rapidly after marriage."—"Boston Transcript."

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Poverty Must Be Abolished, Says G. Bernard Shaw

It Is the Greatest of All Evils and Worst of Crimes, Says He.

George Bernard Shaw made the following comment to a London reporter who questioned him about his declaration that poverty must be abolished, regardless of well known churchly dicta about "the poor we have always with us," etc:

"I dislike poverty, and notice that my feeling about it is shared to the extent that everybody who can avoid it does so, even at the cost of committing any atrocity that is not technically criminal.

"The church, giving the apostolic succession and very little else to its unfortunates (not to mention many of its benefited clergymen), naturally proclaims them blessed.

"The aphorism that God made both rich and poor is a lie. Naked we came into the world and naked we go out of it. If we choose to rob one another in the interval, that is not God's fault. It might as well be said that God made archbishops and burglars as a justification of burglary."

Cecil Chapman, a well known magistrate, recently declared that high wages are one of the contributory causes of the alleged increase in juvenile crime.

"Do you think there is a justification for this theory?" Mr. Shaw was asked.

"I don't know," said Mr. Shaw, "but if Mr. Chapman is right, he reconciles me to a great spread of juvenile crime. I infer that his dock is crowded daily with the sons of millionaires. How curious!

"Suppose we were to abolish all penalties for burglary, incendiarism, etc., and decide that poverty is the one thing we will not tolerate — that every adult with less than say \$1,825 a year, shall be painlessly, but inexorably killed, and every hungry, half-naked child be forcibly fattened and clothed, would not that be an enormous improvement on our existing system, which has already destroyed so many civilizations and is visibly destroying ours in the same way?

"Why do you come to me with such an absurd question as why poverty must be abolished? You might as well ask me why influenza shall be avoided or why hell should be considered an undesirable residence.

"Poverty is the greatest of evils and the worst of crimes. Our first duty—a duty to which every other consideration should be sacrificed—is not to be poor. 'Poor but honest,' 'the respectable poor,' and such phrases are as intolerable and as immoral as 'drunken but amiable,' 'fraudulent but a good after-dinner speaker,' 'splendid criminal,' or the like."

OUR LONDON LETTER

London, May 14.

Labor here is disgusted with the capitalist peace terms. "The conditions out of which came the old war are there, waiting to make the new war", says the "Daily Herald". While the jingo press, here as in other countries, merely laments that the terms are not harsh enough, all decent-minded men are aghast at a treaty which, as H. W. Nevinston, the well-known war correspondent says, "will reduce Europe to a barbaric welter of misery and tribal conflict, only to be followed by universal war still more barbaric than the last". One voice alone is raised from the ranks of Toryism against the terms, and it comes from J. L. Garvin, the editor of the Sunday "Observer", who supported the war throughout as a fight for democracy, for right and a new order, and seems to have meant what he said, unlike many, and is therefore outraged by this betrayal of the ideals for which millions have died.

How Labor is Protesting.

The National Labor Party Executive met immediately after the publication of the Peace terms, and issued a manifesto totally disowning them, and saying: "Insofar as organized Labor was not represented at the Peace Conference which drafted the Peace treaty, and as its general spirit does not conform to the working-class conception of a peace of justice and right, we can accept no responsibility for the violations of principle involved in the settlement".

The Independent Labor Party, of course, as well as the Union of Democratic Control, and other advanced bodies, have similarly repudiated the treaty, and all true lovers of justice welcome the outspoken statement just issued by the Executive of the International Conference, and which emphatically calls upon the Allies to abandon their present militarist policy. It concludes with the words: "This peace is not our peace, and the nations are still menaced by the policy of the victors sharing the spoils without thought of the inevitable consequences".

So wide is becoming the breach between public opinion and the present Parliament that the only discussion likely to take place there on the Peace terms will probably be criticism of the indemnity clauses, which do not carry out the airy promises made by the Coalition jingoes at the general election. Individual Liberals, such as the one who called the treaty a new "declaration of war", speak boldly in the lobby, but all appear powerless to make any real stand in the House against it. Outside Parliament all eyes are turned on the great meeting between the Parliamentary Committee of

the Trade Union Congress and the Triple Alliance (miners, railwaymen and transport workers), which takes place on Thursday next and should indicate the kind of line Labor opposition to the terms will take. Meanwhile, a great deal of support is being given to the proposal that Labor, and indeed all who disapprove of the terms, should refuse to take any part in the Peace rejoicings, but should hold demonstrations of protest instead.

Labor and Militarism.

A sensation has been created by the publication in the "Herald" of a secret instruction to army officers, containing a number of enquiries to be answered with reference to their troops, including questions concerning the men's attitude towards Trade Unionism, and also asking whether they would, in the event of a strike, assist in breaking it. W. Adamson, M.P., will ask the House to-day whether this document was issued with the knowledge and ap-

But the American labor movement is labor; it IS the bona fide fibre of labor, its embodiment and its expression, its image and its servant. It IS labor and of no other thing save the labor movement can that be said. And it is the one great determination of the American labor movement to remain a labor movement, the urgings and importunities of those who would fasten upon it from without and from above or beneath to the contrary notwithstanding.—*Federationist*.

proval of the Cabinet, and whether early facilities can be given for a debate on the subject. There may be no connection between the two circumstances, but it is at least curious that Mr. Churchill, the War Minister, should have left last night for Dundee! Certainly, the rising tide of indignation against the continuance of conscription and the initiation of new wars against Socialist Governments abroad will not be allayed by this revelation of the Government's military policy.

Ireland.

The visit of the three Irish-American Commissioners (Messrs. Walsh, Ryan and Dunne) has been something of the nature of a triumphal progress through Ireland. At every centre at which they stopped and spoke to the assembled people, they insisted on Ireland's right to freedom, and declared America's hearty

sympathy with the cause. Their comparative immunity from military interference, coupled with their departure to Paris, where the Prime Minister is to receive them, gives rise to the hope that their report to him may serve as an excuse for the reversal of the Government's present disastrous Irish policy, to which attention will be drawn in the House of Commons to-day by Vernon Hartshorn, the miners' representative.

Labor Conferences and Commissions.

The examination of more untitled coal-owners, after the plethora of Dukes and Peers who have passed before Robert Smillie and other miners' representatives at the Coal Commission in the last few days, seems a little tame, but is nevertheless yielding equally useful information and opportunities for pressing the strengthening case for national ownership. At the Bakers' Commission, more evidence is produced every time it sits of the inhumanity of night-baking, which is rendered necessary only by the greed of the public for new bread, and sometimes only by the bad management of those who have never bothered before about their men as human beings. The National Conference of the Postal and Telegraph Clerks, just concluded, has emphatically declared for full control of the Post Office, abolition of the profit-making element, National Guilds, and the running of the service as a service and not as a business. Numbers of ex-soldiers were among those who proclaimed their determination for more freedom.

The Theatres.

The housing shortage has extended to the theatres where there are twenty applicants for every vacancy—and there are no vacancies! Thus, the old Middlesex Music Hall has been converted into the new Winter Garden Theatre, where George Grossmith will start a season of musical comedy this week, and where, also, all the attendants at the front of the house will be ex-service men, and the cab doors outside will be opened by a V.C. The Alhambra Music Hall is the new home of the Russian ballet, and offers nightly the most artistic performance in London; its two first performances this week have been Stravinsky's "Petroushka" and "The Fire-bird", a real and charming fairy tale. The summer opera season opened with "La Bohème" at Covent Garden, Sir Thomas Beecham conducting: Mme. Melba sang beautifully—all the better, probably, because she was greeted with "Coo-oo" from Australian soldiers in all parts of the house. Among new plays in prospect are one on Don Juan by Arnold Bennett; one on Parnell—"The Lost Leader", by J. R. Fagan, and a satirical play, "The Patriots," by Frank Ross, the new Labor member for North Aberdeen. But perhaps the most interesting items of theatrical news for Labor readers are that the Actors' Association is considering the advisability of being represented at

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the forthcoming Trades Union Congress, and that Mrs. Kendal is one of the keenest supporters. In her opinion, no actor should be compelled to play more than six performances a week, and no engagement should be for less than three weeks.

The Week's Humor.

Apparently the Watch on the Rhine is not to be wound up for fifteen years.

What are the Fourteen Points? The Allies certainly appear to have drawn up the Treaty on the assumption that a point is that which hath no magnitude—and no position.

"The War that ended War"—Sequels, as proclaimed in headlines from the dailies: "Soldiers ready in Dublin"—"Better Pay for the Navy"—"The Afghan Invasion"—"Fighting on Archangel Front"—"Bombers for India".

At the farewell dinner given to Edward Price Bell, the well-known American journalist, different Peace definitions were given. The Americans described it as "peace with a punch". An English speaker said he had heard it described as "a peace with a vengeance". A well-known Lobby correspondent, speaking feelingly as one who had had to read the whole 10,000 words, found it "a peace that passeth understanding".

Evelyn Sharp.

"THE BOLSHIES WILL GET YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT"

OBSERVE the cartoon to the right. It costs several good dollars to have it reproduced here from the Montreal Daily Star, but it is worth the money.

It is headed "If We Were Bolsheviks". Now, according to the artists, Bolsheviks are male persons who wear prickly hedges on their faces, object to soap, buy their business suits and boots from the gentlemen who explore the garbage pails, and have nothing in the way of grey matter between their ears except that which has been deposited by the vagaries of the weather. Whether there is such a thing as a female Bolshevik, with prickly hedges on her face and the other marks of the Bolshevik species, is not generally known, as the artists have not been communicative on the subject. All adult persons who are not Bolsheviks are beautiful males and females of the kind who do the hero and heroine stuff in the movies and for ever afterwards are playing tag in the divorce courts. At least so the artist fellows would have us believe. The product the artists can get away with in these matters is rather interesting, and doubtless contributes much to the stability of the world.

Note Panel No. 1 of the cartoon. In it you are told that through hard work and thrift you secure a little home. This little home stands in about an acre of ground and is built in conformity with the Westmount idea. It costs only \$15,000 or so, but with a little more hard work (perhaps by taking on a few extra furnace jobs next winter or doing book-keeping for the corner grocer in your spare time) and with a little more thrift (such as firing the chauffeur or going without your steam yacht for a season) you hope to have a real home by and bye, one of those marble-staircase affairs with a salon of oil paintings of somebody else's ancestors that you can claim as your own.

The Bolsheviks, for whom you do not care a tinker's cuss, meanwhile live in stuffy rented flats near the dump or the railroad tracks, or in apartment houses where it is unsafe for the inhabitants to turn around quickly for fear they scrape the plaster off with their prickly hedge.

Then in Panel No. 2 you marry the

girl of your choice to look after the little home. You have full Church of England ceremonial. Everybody who is anybody is there, the various fixings run up a bill of several thousand dollars, and the society editresses throw three fits in an effort to describe everything but the character of the contracting parties.

Panel No. 3 shows how you have acquired a measure of comfort and happiness through your industry. Your wife has several maids, of course, but, always mindful of the injunction to patronize the poor, is knitting a pair of socks that nobody can wear, though they will cost as much as three pairs in the hosiery shop. You can sit in your \$200 Morris chair and read your Railroader at your ease.

But, in Panel No. 4, along comes a Bolshevik chief backed by a regiment of Bolsheviks with fixed bayonets. He rudely informs you that your property is confiscated to the state and that you must get out. What a reward for all your good works for the dear people, notably yourself!

In the next panel your wife and daughters — between Panel No. 2 and Panel No. 5 you have been married and acquired daughters of marriageable age, though you and your wife are evidently not a day older — your wife and daughters are seized for "the good of the state".

If you object, see what happens to you in Panel No. 6 as the result of a mock trial. You have been shot in the interest of "liberty and freedom" and the Soviet Government.

There are many points not cleared up, but you are dead anyway and so the cartoonist is done with you. Your only hope is that it will be remembered later on that you put a nickel in the plate every Sunday, and that you always adopted a superior and self-satisfied air in life.

Having considered all these things, Mr. Reader, and drawn your own conclusions, you are bound to agree that the reproduction of the cartoon was worth the few good dollars paid for it. The only thing that seems to be wanting is an appreciation of the fact that if most of the people had homes like that in Panel No. 1, Bolsheviks would be scarcer than snow in June.

K. C.

IF WE WERE BOLSHIEVISTS



LABOR'S STRENGTH SHOWN IN BRITAIN.

Newspapers Call Attention to Workers' Needs for Decent Life.

The recent threatened strike of miners and railway men has been averted, but the crisis has driven home to the British people the power of the workers when they unite on the industrial field.

Reynold's Newspaper is not a trade union publication, but the editor faces facts in discussing this question:

"The result of the negotiations which have gone on for the last few weeks," he says, "has made clear two things. The first is the power of really well-organized trade unions; the second is the value of the strike weapon. By the threat of a strike, and in no other way, have the miners and the railway men got justice.

"Before the war we were content as a people to see railway men working for 18 shillings a week, and even highly skilled men in responsible positions being grossly underpaid. At that time, too, the wages of the miners were on the average only a little over 30 shillings a week.

"Will any sane-minded man assert that if there had been some means by which miners and railway men could be prevented from striking they would have got what they now get?

"We hope that, by Whitley councils and other means, the danger of dislocations of industry by strikes will pass away. But the workers can never be sure that it will wholly pass as long as they have not in reserve the power to withdraw their labor as a final resort.

"In a community conscious of the

right of every working man to a decent wage, there should never be any need to strike, for the common sense of the community would see that no injustice was meted out to any of its members. The principle we have just admitted in the case of railway men and miners must be extended to all other workers. The guiding line must be that until all have a chance of a decent life, with well-nourished bodies and well-nourished minds, nobody has a claim to an excess of the general wealth produced by the community. This will seem a hard saying to those who have hitherto looked upon it as a right that they should be privileged above their fellows; but more and more will it become the principle upon which the state is guided in the future. With a Labor government in power, it would certainly become the dominant principle of politics."

Out of Luck.

Afraid to breathe almost, the returned reveller crept quietly into his bedchamber as the grey dawn was breaking. Sitting on the edge of the bed, he cautiously undid his boots. But, with all his care, his wife stirred in bed, and he presently was all too well aware of a pair of sleepy eyes regarding him over the edge of the sheet.

"Why, Tom", yawned the little woman, "how early you are this morning!"

"Yes, my dear", replied Tom, stifling a groan, "I've got to go to Toronto for the firm to-day."

And, replacing his footgear, the wretched man dragged his aching limbs out again into the cold and heartless streets.

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has the King had much to do with the granting of them. They have usually been useful rewards in the control of political opportunists and social bounders. Many of the best statesmen of the Empire, past and present, have refused to accept them. Whatever slim form of excuse may be found for the knighthoods, there is absolutely none for the hereditary titles. It is contrary to our ideas of democracy and equality that a man shall be given a class honor or privilege because he is the son of his father.

The Rev. Dr. Hall proceeds: "We who are home-born are to be less Britons in Canada than in any other part of the Empire, and the King is to be less a King in Canada than in any other part of his Dominions. It may be a matter of sentiment, but it will have damaging effects upon the emigration of worthy people in Great Britain if they think they are to suffer the loss of some part of their British status through coming to Canada. They will go elsewhere or remain where they are, but they will resent being classed with underlings of the Empire."

It is sheer foolishness to suggest that the abolition of titles will have any effect upon the emigration of worthy people in Great Britain. The ordinary British emigrant cares not a hoot about titles as affecting status when he is considering departure from his own country. His main consideration is in securing a better and a freer life, and if he thinks he is going to get this better and freer life in Canada he will travel to Canada just the same, titles or no titles. The worthy people who would stay away from Canada because it has no titles — if such people exist — are undesirables, anyway, and our asylums are full enough already.

"The resolution is an indignity to the King's Majesty," continued Dr. Hall, "a blow at imperial unity and a parliamentary recrudescence of that Bolshevik demon which is against all authority in the State and all dignity in public life. I should say, too, that the resolution is an affront to the people of Canada. Why should they all be classed as mongrels who cannot worthily wear the dignities proceeding from the highest fount of honor in our common Empire?"

There is no indignity to the King's Majesty involved in the abolition of titles, but there is indignity involved in the continuance of titles. King George, as a human being like most of the rest of us, must be heartily sick of the indignity of handing out titles, per accompanying slip, with a "sign here" dotted line at the foot, so to speak. As for lugging in the Bolshevik demon, that is only another illustration of the popular malady of describing as Bolshevik anyone or anything disagreeing with you. No one has classed the people of Canada as mongrels, except Rev. Mr. Hall. They are mongrels only in the sight of Mr. Hall, and he is welcome to his own interpretation and its responsibilities.

K. C.

A Champion of Titles

PREACHING at Stanley Presbyterian Church, Montreal, last week, on the "Functions of the Crown", Rev. Dr. Hall, Senior Chaplain to the Naval and Merchant Institute of Canada, said: "In exhibiting the value of the Crown to the Empire, I feel bound to express my indignant protest against the ill-timed and narrow-minded resolution recently passed in the Canadian House of Commons upon the bestowal of titles by the King in Canada. It may be that some improved method of the exercise of the royal prerogative is desirable, but that could have been done in a much less mischievous way. This fact of the direct relation of citizens to the Crown ought not to be brought about without a direct appeal to the people of Canada."

It is an ill-timed and narrow-minded protest that is here registered against abolition of titles. The title of knighthood has come to be almost without meaning when we attempt to find the reasons governing the granting of knighthoods and when we regard the persons to whom some of these knighthoods were granted. These titles do not represent a direct relation of the citizens to the Crown, as the citizens generally have had practically nothing to do with deciding to whom they shall be granted, and, on the other hand, neither

Incorporation of Unions

THE MONTREAL GAZETTE, fine purveyor of news though it is — even if it does take special charm in the news of the moneyed and 'society' interests — is always waiting at the corner of the lane, so to speak, to land another editorial wallop on labor unions and social democracy generally.

Its most recent slap is on the incorporation of labor unions. Unions, it says, should be incorporated, so that they may be sued when they break agreements. It argues that the employer who breaks an agreement can be sued, but that the labor union can do what it likes. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

This sounds fine and equitable in theory. In effect it is quite another matter. Unions arise, in the first instance, out of conditions in which the employers are not playing the game with their employees, agreements or no agreements. The union is the only means which the employee has of obtaining what is his due. His weapon is not money, for he has none. The weapon of the employer is money, and he generally has lots of it. Litigation in the courts would bankrupt most union organizations, even if their cause were just, for men with money can push litigation far enough to demonstrate the power of might over right. Many an honest man without money has been ruined in the law courts. Many an unscrupulous financier or other jackal of the interests has climbed to dizzy pinnacles of fame because he had enough money to litigate his opponents out of existence. There is a lot of sound reason behind the phrase that there are laws for the rich and laws for the poor.

As a matter of fact, labor unions rarely break their agreements, anyway. When they do, it is often because the employers have read new and unintended interpretations into these agreements. Agreements are in nearly every instance demanded by the employee, not by the employer, because the employee fears from experience that the employer will not live up to other forms of agreement. As for suing the employer who breaks the agreement, what does the labor union think of that? Not very much. The union knows that with its small financial backing it has little hope of being able to sue an employer successfully. It is not able to engage the clever lawyers, to prepare the elaborate cases, to fight the injunctions and the postponements of the law, to carry things to higher courts.

The question of incorporation of unions can very well be left in abeyance in the meantime, because if incorporation is demanded the labor unions will demand complete equality on all points before the law and that will involve remarkable changes.

K. C.

The Tale of a Tom-Cat

PERHAPS it should be brought to the attention of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations that a Persian cat named Billy, valued at \$5,000, owned by Mrs. W. A. Kelly, a guest at a Toronto hotel, fell three storeys in the hotel last week and had all its nine lives snuffed out at once.

The point of interest to the Commission might be that one cause of unrest has thus been disposed of, more violently than was necessary, it may be, but quickly and conclusively, although the inspiration of the cause remains and may even be planning fresh causes of unrest.

No cat ever was, or ever will be, worth \$5,000. A cat is a sly beast, a resentful beast, and a beast of a musician, whether it be Persian or Patagonian, or just an ordinary working-class cat catching stable rats or grubbing in the garbage. Anyone who would pay \$5,000 for a cat in these days of 65c butter and 13c milk has more money than he or she knows what to do with, and most people would be in favor of marking the cat down to 99c and confiscating the balance of \$4,999.01 for the nearest baby welfare fund.

Dear Billy was doubtless better fed and cared for than the average human child. More affection was doubtless bestowed on it than is given to many boys and girls wondering what sort of a queer and distorted world they have been born into. Many a mother's heart is wrung because she is not able to give her baby the amount of milk that Billy consumed. Many a man doing a hard day's work for bare existence must be riled to know that a lazy and good-for-nothing cat had more money spent on it than would pay the rent of his home.

The remains of Billy were laid out in state in the hotel, surrounded by roses, and afterwards solemnly interred at Woodbine race track. This is interesting news to those who know that children die on kitchen tables in stinking tenements; to those who know that thousands of Canadian tots pass to unmarked graves every year, unhonored except by weeping parents who know that in a genuine civilization their tots might have been saved; to those who know that many a child, for the first time since it was born, passes through the fresh air, the trees and the sunshine — in death, through cemetery paths.

Billy was surely a cause of unrest.

K. C.

THE GOLDEN RULE.

(Continued from page 9.)

policy to bring it to them before the naked, the hungry and the wretched come to take it.

If we with our brawn and you with your brains and all of us with goodwill finally and firmly undertake to bring to the people, food, clothing and shelter, ours

will be the grandest accomplishment and the greatest achievement ever consummated by a union of muscle and brain. Let us all get into a convention with the slogan: "Let us help one another," for, than this, there has never been a better or grander human idea.

G. P.

The WOMAN'S FORUM

BLIND TO EVERYTHING - BUT THE TRUTH

WOMEN AND THE CHURCH

The Ontario Synod in convention at Kingston by an overwhelming majority voted against a proposal to allow women to attend as delegates, Bishop Bidwell holding the view "that while the church might benefit by having women delegates it would stand to lose more than it would gain in the absence of men delegates, which would result from permitting women to have part in the synod". He pointed out that it was hard enough to get men to attend now and would be still harder if women were delegates.

What a compliment to women, and, if I may be pardoned for making a pun, does not bid well for the progress of broadmindedness for the seekers of the faith or the future welfare of the Anglican Church. If as the good bishop said, it is hard enough to get men to attend the synod now, does this fact not prove that there is something wrong inside the synod, something wrong with even the elect, and would it not be well to consult with the other half of humanity before the post mortem takes place? The average man has lost interest in the church; men's clubs of every description are increasing and flourishing everywhere and are doing away with the church as an aid to business or a badge of respectability.

Women Supporters.

Ministers and the church have received their staunchest support from women. Men have made the religious and moral codes, but women, generally speaking, have kept and obeyed them. Men have attended church mostly because of their women folk and families. Suppose women were to withdraw themselves and their children from church where would ministers be? There would be very little need for the theological discourses all conferences. The church needs women in its councils, and needs them badly. The teaching of children the moral codes, religious dogmas and the interpretations of the doctrines of Christ, if they are to be in keeping with an awakened humanity, must be made more vital, and interpreted with more courage than men have shown themselves hitherto capable of. To meet the demands of the new age ministers must stand up and tell the war lords who they are, and what they are; they must pull off the cloak of hypocrisy of the money changers who masquerade inside the church under the name of philanthropists. They must stand up to big business and the profiteers who

starve and exploit the masses, and the food adulterators who kill the babes, and tell them these things must not be. They must tell the sleek, well-fed gentlemen who occupy the front pews and pay starvation wages to the girl employees that their money is tainted and their religion a sham, and that the church cannot, and will not, thrive on or countenance their ill-gotten gains.

A Narrow Gospel.

The church has obviously not been preaching the gospel of the lowly Nazarene these two thousand years. If, she had been teaching and demanding the application to life of the sermon on the Mount, instead of preaching a theology founded by St. Paul and others, the world would not have sunken to the depth of depravity and savagery that it has at the present time. Except for a few individuals here and there Christianity is non-existent, and those in whose heart burns the Gospel of Christ are only too often given short shrift in the church.

During the past four years the churches in all lands have preached the narrow Gospel, a Gospel founded on nationality: "The righteousness of their cause", "the purity of their motives", the "superiority of the nation's characteristic", "honesty, humanitarianism, culture and virtue", and the wickedness, baseness, and debauchery of their enemies. Can we imagine Christ, who commanded that we should "love our enemies", preaching such gospels, taking sides in a slaughter such as man in his most bestial state never waged? How then can ministers reconcile their gospel of the past four years with the commands and example of Christ?

Women are asking this vital question, they are asking why they should send their children to Sunday School in face of such contradictions, of what benefit it is to them, if ministers are any more gifted to teach, or more divinely inspired with the knowledge of God than women are? They are beginning to doubt, and have good grounds for their doubts.

Against Injunction.

The church is always willing to accept and thrive on the material services of women, always willing to pay lip service to them, but when it comes to recognizing them as equals, and giving them an equal right in deciding the spiritual and moral food which shall be prepared

and fed to their children, again men proceed against the biblical injunction and decide that it is well that man should be alone. Men have spent years of valuable time and billions of dollars formulating religious concoctions which should prove an antidote against the flesh and the devil, but judging from conditions in the world around us their plan of salvation has failed. The flesh and the devil are apparently master of the situation to-day, which only goes to prove that even in questions pertaining to the "church", "God", the "devil", "heaven" and "hell" it is not well that men should be alone. When alone they have the very bad habit of either going to sleep or going out and getting into mischief.

In the case of the church it would seem as if a "deep sleep" had fallen upon the clergy, and nothing short of an invasion of woman into man's last stronghold, the holy of holies, can bring life and progress and make the church and its followers what they ought to be, bearers of truth, interpreters of the great social issues, and leaders in political and economic liberty. This is the only church which can appeal, or will be tolerated by the people, a church big enough to hear the message from both men and women, a church standing squarely for the social and spiritual teachings of Christ.

In all the ancient religions there have been prophetesses. Deborah delivered the message of God to man equal to any of her time. In the middle ages women were again heard in the church. Hilda, of Whitby, we are told, inspired all who heard her, and this method of delivering the gospel might again be restored to the church with good

advantage. At present Maud Croyden fills to overflow the City Temple of London, England, while many men ministers are preaching to empty pews or a baker's dozen of listeners. There are many women who would be a valuable asset to the church, and who would be gladly heard by the people. Women, like men, are tired of hearing Sunday after Sunday practically the same story, often from young and callow parsons, who have little knowledge of the laws of man and the world around them—hence their knowledge of the hereafter, and their conception of the mind of God is measured accordingly.

Let us have women on every council in the church, and, if capable to fill the pulpit, there also should she be.

Rose Henderson.



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WHY NOT "TITLES AVAUNT" ?

Editor,
Canadian Railroader,

Dear Sir,

The writer has been reading an article on the editorial page of the "Star", entitled "Titles Avaunt", and tried very hard to feel that this bit of clever sarcasm and cajolery might help to retain these undemocratic appellative appenages.

The widely-known proprietor of the "Star" is the victim of one or two of those royal adornments, but many in Canada think he would look and stand better without any such insignis. It is not to disparage the usefulness and worth of such men that objection is made to these conventional distributions, but because of the principle involved. This royal habit is a relic of the dead age of feudalism.

We are decidedly entered upon the Age of Democracy. And it is ill-becoming for any loyal citizen of a democracy to slur its fundamental principles. Hereditary honors are absolutely incongruous, even pernicious, in a society where personal merit and achievement are held up to the individual as the real road to honor. To have titles tossed off indiscriminately almost on political or pecuniary pull is both a disgrace and a discouragement to honest effort and veritable personal accomplishment. And then to make much titles hereditary is an insult to democratic society.

The writer of this letter holds five earned sheepskin diplomas, two from seven year's study in a leading university, and three for completed study and efficiency in a professional field, and not one of these documents is framed or shown to the public. The writer is of the opinion that such ostentation is ill-mannered and out of place in our democratic society. In connection with our universities, there is a very serious current of feeling against the bestowment of honorary degrees, except in the cases of phenomenal personal achievement for humanity or for the nation.

Never are such honors to be bestowed for gifts of money, or public benefactions based on money, because wealth is no worthy personal accomplishment. It is only an accident of birth or of social environment under our present civilization. Money-making is no art, no achievement deserving a title or an honor

of any kind. A man can almost be a d.f. and stumble upon a fortune. He can find it in an oil well, a mine or an industry due to somebody else's genius, and himself not be able to write his name legibly or to read a paragraph acceptably to the primary school grade.

And in Britain the last batch of titles tossed from the throne is to a lot of newspaper proprietors, which makes it look quite like a bid for propaganda for the perpetuation of vanishing royalty and nobility. Perhaps newspaper proprietors deserve such distinction more than rich bankers, manufacturers, politicians and profiteers, but democracy would justly bunch them all for the distribution of only "high" privates. Quite probably, however, the editors of those papers deserve the titles rather than the proprietors.

And now that the proletarian has discovered himself—his power and place in society—nabobs do well to go slow with their flauntings of claimed superiority, or they may be taught some good manners by compulsion. The time is coming and now is at hand, when men shall call each

To organize the unorganized is to give them strength and a voice with which to assert their strength in the struggle to establish and maintain the rights that all should have.

other "brother" from the least unto the greatest, and plain "Mister" will be dignified enough for any truly democratic gentleman.

Modesty is truly a lost art, and democracy must find it. The Founder of Christianity taught it and practised it. He is the exemplar for the world. "Call no man 'Lord'; for there is One only". "He that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth shall be exalted". "He that is greatest among you shall be your servant".

As for the class of knights, lords, and others, marked in Canada by a vote of over two to one for extinction by natural death, attention is particularly called to the fact that they will not pass away as titled dignitaries but simply as human mortals. Such classes do not exist naturally, and they have a hard task obtaining recognition in true democratic society. At the same time be it truly said that no useful man under true democracy shall fail of his just and full reward for all that he is and does.

It is manifest that Canada is becoming better grounded in "Democracy", and that here as well as in the States, the great majority want none of the inherited trappings and apparatus of monarchy—"court ceremonies, titles, patents of

nobility, place, precedence, royal etiquette, flub-dub, fol-de-rol, and above all the habit of mind that grew under monarchical conditions". Most of Europe and all of America are rid of monarchy. Much of the lumber of it is not yet cleared away, but it soon will be.

Kings and royal potentates and all their soft and useless ilk are being relegated to "innocuous desuetude"; and soon we shall have left simple and true humanity, which is much better and quite enough. While letting empty titles out, we shall retain a greater fulness of real manhood and womanhood, a plenum of utmost endeavor and ablest achievement.

OPTIMUS.

NO TENDERFOOT.

Cactus Cal: "That there new minister of our'n ain't no tenderfoot. See, he's usin' his left hand ter shake hands with th' members of his congregation."

Visitor: "What does that action signify?"

Cactus Cal: "It don't signify nothin', stranger, but it leaves his gun hand free."—"Hillsboro Gazette"

On the Safe Side.

Although Tim and Pat were known to be great friends, it was remarked that one morning they passed each other on the street without speaking.

"Why, Tim", queried a friend in astonishment, "have you and Pat quarrelled?"

"Faith, we have not", replied Tim, earnestly.

"There seemed to be a coolness between you when you passed this morning."

"Well", explained Tim, "that's the way we're goin' to hold our friendship."

"I don't understand."

"Ye don't? Well, thin, it's this way. Pa an' me are that devoted to wan another that we can't bear the thought av a quarrel, and' as we're both mighty hot tempered, we've resolved not to speak to wan another at all, for fear of breakin' our friendship."—Harper's Magazine.

SPECIALTIES

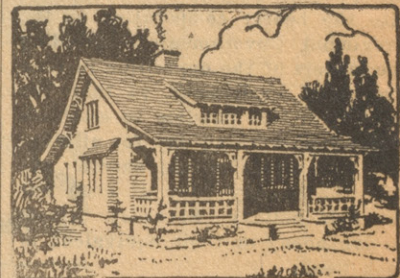
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SUGGESTIONS FOR STABILIZING CONDITIONS

Editor "Canadian Railroader",

Dear Sir,

I am not a Red Revolutionist but an average workingman who has always advocated doing everything constitutionally but who claims that the only sound basis on which remedial measures for the existing unrest and suffering in the Labor World of to-day must be on justice to all concerned, not only to employers and employees but to the general public.

It is necessary to reach working solutions of the problems as quickly as possible, because immediate relief is of paramount importance to avoid national calamity. I think the Federal Government should invite the hearty co-operation of the Provincial Governments, including the leaders of the opposition in each Provincial Parliament, to take the quickest action possible to establish a standard working day for all Canada, and which should ensure not only the Sunday (day of rest) but the half holiday Saturday (from twelve noon) or their equivalent in each week.

By doing this promptly two things would be accomplished:

1st.—One of the primary demands of Labor would be met;

2nd.—Every employer would be on an equal footing.

Having done this they might appeal to both Capital and Labor to call a truce or armistice to all lock-outs and strike for a limited period, during which this combined Parliamentary Committee, enlarged by properly-elected delegates from both Capital and Labor, should endeavor to establish, if possible, minimum rates of wages based on the cost of living, and bearing in mind that every citizen is entitled to a fair chance to obtain the reasonable comforts of life and not restricted to drudgery and starvation. Then this committee could consider the establishing of Industrial Councils somewhat on the Whitley plan as far as such would suit Canadian conditions. If these are properly organized with such full liberty for future development as working experience might advise. I think lock-outs and strikes would be very rare things, if they did not cease altogether. It only requires a genuine desire and intention of everyone doing justice to everyone else. Until these problems were settled in a satisfactory manner and national life in a normal condition, immigration should be suspended or strictly restricted

to only the most desirable characters and to those to have sufficient capital to ensure then not becoming a burden on the community; for example an eligible character would be a good farmer with enough capital to finance him till his farm was developed to more than support himself and family, taking into consideration possibility of bad years.

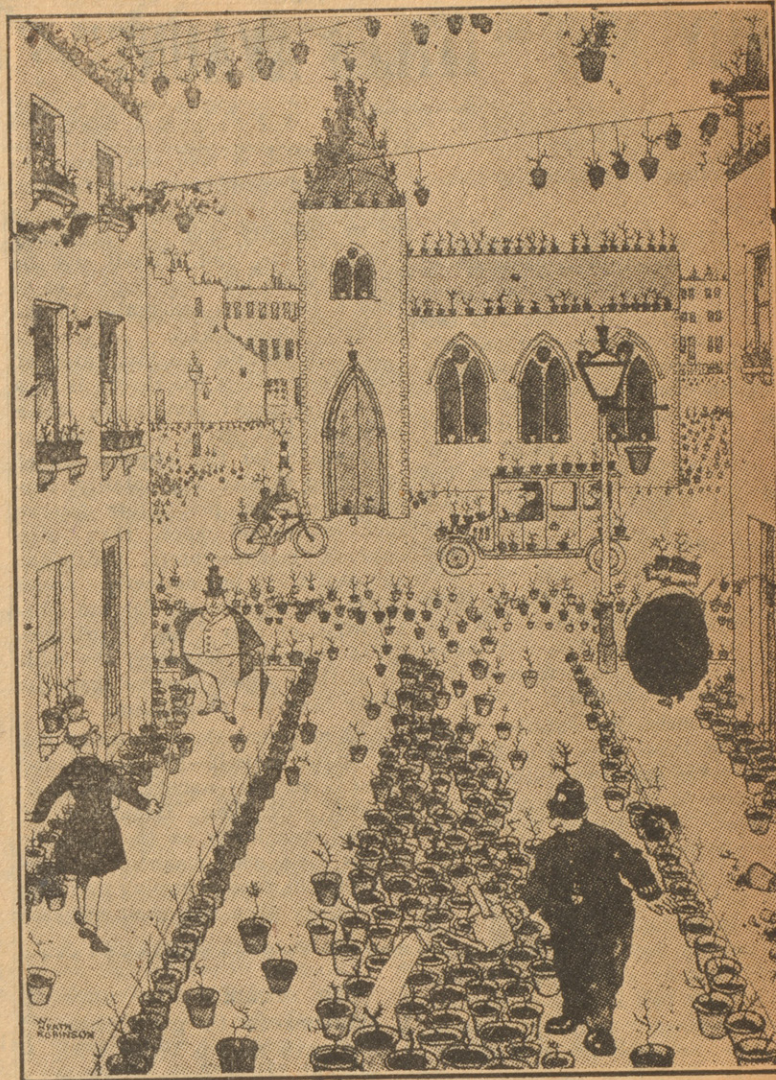
Here are a few things that our existing Parliaments could immediately consider and put into force as soon as possible: national compulsory insurance against sickness, old age and un-employment, making it compulsory for every citizen to have a minimum standard that would insure him or her against actual want and starvation. By this act we would eliminate the bulk of the charity organizations of to-day; and the hospitals, asylums needed for all genuine cases of sickness or distress, should be duly maintained from the regular taxes, but every healthy man or woman should be given every opportunity to earn an honest living and do their duty to themselves and the country that protects and assists them.

Here I want to advocate that all the plans and schemes in use or proposed for dealing with our returning soldiers, should be adopted by Parliament as a national policy to deal with the un-employment problem, only in all cases giving the returning soldier who has actually been at the front the preference, everything else being equal.

Organization for war produced wonderful and undreamt of success. The same united efforts and organization for peace can also produce as great, if not greater, results and benefits.

All that could be utilized for the development of this country (for instance tents, motor waggons, etc.) should be salvaged from the war zone and used for that purpose, and with whatever other equipment necessary let the Government immediately recruit and instal a National Labor Army in which every physically fit un-employed person could enroll, and be immediately employed on such public works as afforestation, road-making, canals, etc., all of which is for the general public benefit, combined with a proper system of vocational training. Then as private employers needed labor, they could always get a reliable supply and we would not have men deteriorating by idleness and walking the streets.

W. N. Dixon.



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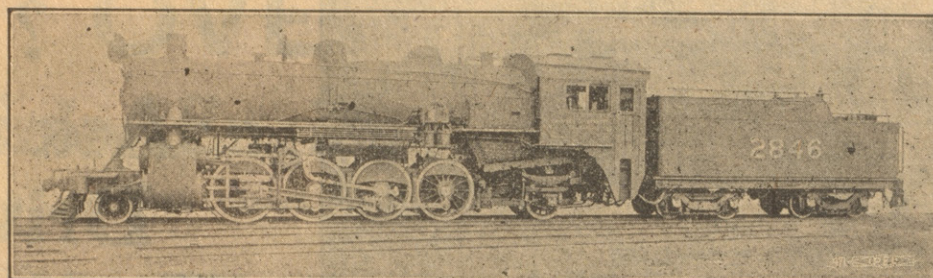
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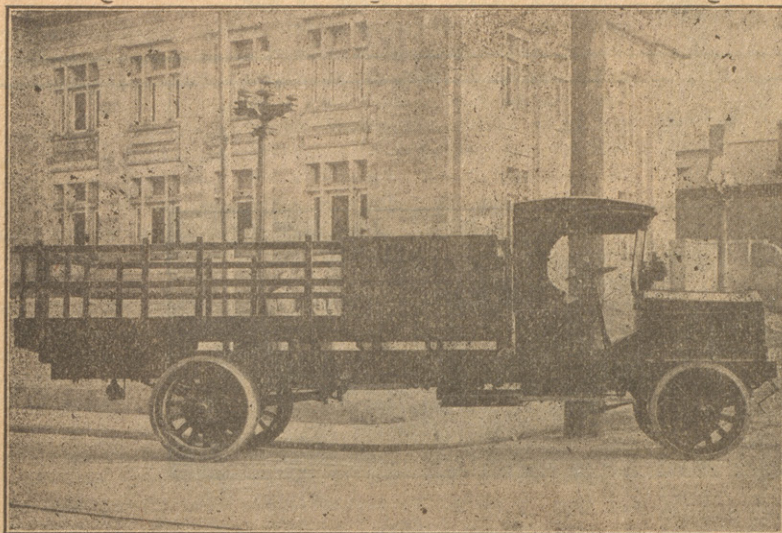
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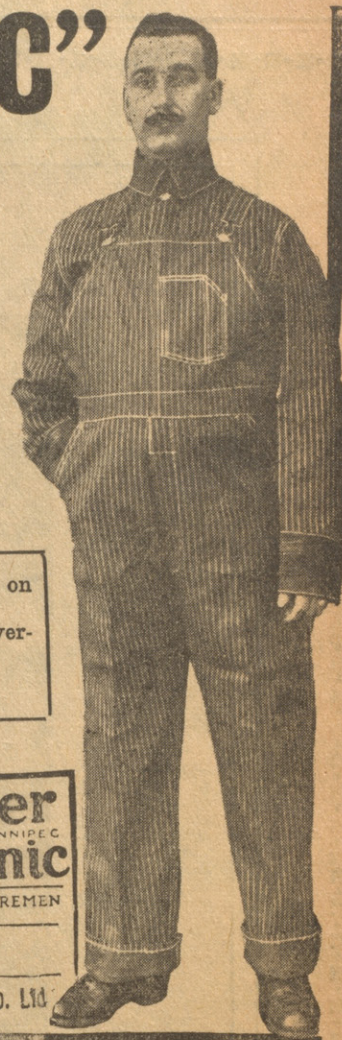
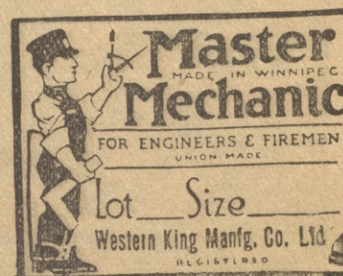
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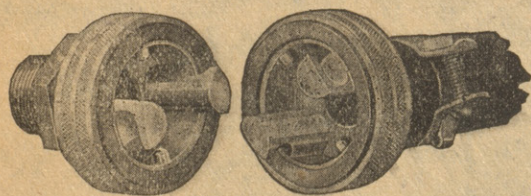
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